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Practitioner's Docket No. 1012-103(2000-048)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Lugmair, Claus G.; Pinkas, Daniel M
Application No.: 09/928,761 Group No.: 2856
Filed: August 13, 2001 Examiner: Unknown
For: HIGH THROUGHPUT DISPENSING OF FLUIDS

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Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-7 without prejudice, to pursue the same in a continuing application, and add new claims 22-26 as follows:

22. (NEW) A method for non-contact parallel dispensing of fluids onto a substrate for forming a library of materials comprising the steps of:

a) providing an apparatus for non-contact dispensing of a fluid onto a substrate for forming a library of at least four different materials having a chemical gradient across said substrate including:

a plurality of parallel hydrophilic capillaries, each dimensioned for drawing a liquid therein in a volume less than about 10 microliters;

a hydrophobic sheath sealingly adjoining each of said capillaries and defining an interface therewith for resisting flow of said liquid into each said capillary beyond said interface;

a conduit upstream of said sheath associated with a manifold and being connected with said sheath; and

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